

# OFFICE OF LICENSING

# Update to Background Screening Rule (R501-14)

February 2021

## OVERVIEW

In accordance with 62A-2-120:

- Applicants to programs serving adults only (mental health and substance use disorder) no longer undergo mandatory denial provisions and are reviewed by a committee in consideration of the position for which they are applying.
- Applicants to programs serving adults only with only substance use disorder still qualify for background screening exemption as approved by the Office.
- Online Direct Access Clearance System (DACS) is active for all providers at this time. This update:
  - aligns with DACS terminology,
  - clarifies terms and responsibilities
  - updates processes to be more effective and efficient for improved clearance turnaround times.

## THIS UPDATE WILL...

### Allow More Flexibility

- Requires that individual circumstances, such as the position for which an applicant is applying, to be considered in clearance determinations.
- Allows for less rigidity for clearances involving adult only clientele.

### Clarify

- Defines frequently used terms in the DACS system.
- Outlines the new paperless process of submitting and paying for background clearances in DACS.
- Limits committee considerations to 10 years when no new charges have occurred.

### Streamline Processes

- Eliminates the need for renewal applications.
- Allows for the transfer/ connection to existing applications of the same type in DACS.
- Outlines the new paperless process of submitting and paying for background clearances in DACS.

You may find the most current version of this rule on our website listed below.

Email specific clearance questions to: [cbsunit@utah.gov](mailto:cbsunit@utah.gov); DACS questions to [DHSDACS@utah.gov](mailto:DHSDACS@utah.gov) (or reference training materials [here](#) on our website).

Rule questions to [dhslicensing@utah.gov](mailto:dhslicensing@utah.gov).